

Mom Guess What Newspaper



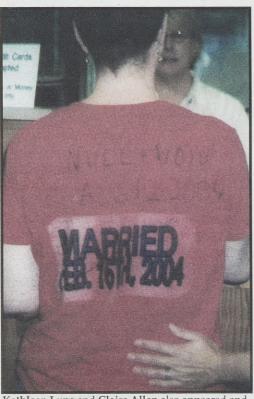
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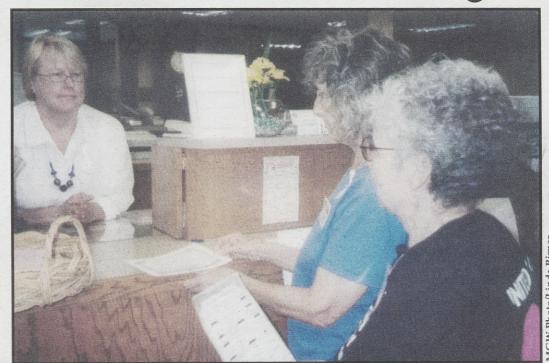
September 1, 2004

Vol. 27 ▼ Issue 487

California Supreme Court Invalidates Marriages



Kathleen Luna and Claire Allen also appeared and had their marriage license invalidated.



Ellen Pontac and Shelly Bailes, together for 31 years were the 45th couple to marry in SanFrancisco. After the Supreme Court decision they appeared at the Yolo County Recorders Office to have their new marriage invalidated. The sympathetic Court Recorder embossed the invalid license and returned it to the couple.

alifornia Supreme Court ruled that San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom did not have the authority to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples, and declared the licenses issued to thousands of same-sex couples invalid. The ruling does not address whether same-sex couples must be allowed to marry under the California Constitution. That issue is being litigated in a separate lawsuit brought by the National Center for Lesbian Rights, Lambda Legal and the ACLU. Legal briefs are being filed in that lawsuit

in the next few weeks, and the case is expected to move quickly in state court. More than 4,000 couples and their families are directly affected by the Court's decision today, depriving these families of equal dignity as well as of the many legal protections granted to married couples under California law. Among the families are Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, the first same-sex couple to receive a marriage license in San Francisco on February 12, 2004.

In its decision, the Court did not rule on the ultimate

issue of whether excluding same-sex couples from obtaining governmentissued marriage licenses violates the California Constitution's guarantees of equality, liberty, and privacy. That question is at the center of cases currently pending in San Francisco Superior Court, including Woo v. Lockyer, an action on behalf of several same-sex couples, Equality California, and Our Families Coalition filed by the National Center for Lesbian Rights, Lambda Legal, and the ACLU in March, and a case on behalf of the City and County of San Francisco, brought by San Francisco City Attorney Dennis Herrera. These cases are similar to a Massachusetts lawsuit that led to a decision last year ordering government officials to issues marriage licenses to same-sex couples statewide. In another similar case, a Washington State trial court judge ruled last week that a state law prohibiting same-sex couples from marrying violated the state's Constitution.

While the challenge to the present law governing

the issuance of marriage licenses moves forward in the courts, a simultaneous effort to change that law legislatively is also moving forward. The Marriage License Non-Discrimination Act, legislation, which is being carried by San Francisco Assemblyman Mark Leno and officially sponsored by Equality California, became the first marriage equality bill to pass a legislative body when it was passed by both the Assembly Rules and Judiciary Committees earlier this year.



Garden State:

A love story and a personal journey through post-adolescence

See page 12

Supreme Court Ruling:

Read statements released in regards to the decision to invalidate California same-sex marriages.

See page 18

District Attorney Citizens Academy:

Help achieve improved relations & communication between diverse communities & the criminal justice system.

See page 9

Military's Highest Court Declines to Strike Down Sodomy Statute;

Court Leaves Open Question of Constitutionality Article 125

In a decision published, the military's highest court of criminal appeals declined to strike down the armed forces' ban on private, consensual sodomy, known as Article 125 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. The court reviewed the statute in wake of the U.S. Supreme Court decision in Lawrence v. Texas in June 2003. The Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces left open whether it would declare private consensual sodomy involving service members unconstitutional in future cases. In United States v. Marcum, the

court found that the appellant's involvement with a subordinate took his conduct outside of the constitutional protection defined by the Supreme Court.

Counsel for
Servicemembers Legal
Defense Network (SLDN)
argued in Marcum that
the Lawrence decision,
which struck down state
sodomy laws, invalidated
the military's similar
statute. SLDN argued,
as the court noted, that
Lawrence recognized
"a constitutional liberty
interest in sexual intimacy
between consenting adults

in private." SLDN was joined by Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and the ACLU of the National Capital Area. The law firm of Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale & Dorr LLP represented the organizations.

Marcum was a cryptologic linguist and the supervising noncommissioned officer in a flight of Persian-Farsi speaking intelligence analysts stationed at Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha, Nebraksa. He was convicted on May 21, 2000 of consensual sodomy and

other charges.

After the Supreme Court's decision in Lawrence, the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces granted appellant the right to challenge to continued validity of Article 125. The court noted that "constitutional rights generally apply to members of the armed forces unless by their express terms...they are inapplicable." The court suggested that consensual sodomy, by itself, even in the military context, may be within the constitutional protection defined by the Supreme Court. The Court

of Appeals for the Armed Forces ruled, however, that the additional aspect of that conduct occurring within the context of a superior subordinate relationship, took the conduct outside of the constitutional protection defined by the Supreme Court.

The military's sodomy statute applies to both heterosexual and samesex consensual sodomy. According to the RAND Institute, 80 percent of military personnel violate the statute on a regular basis. ▼

Info: www.sldn.org.

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INFORMATION

National Gay & Lesbian Journalist Association Society of Professional Journalists Alternative Press Syndicate



MGW is printed on recycled newsprint



Current Strategy Divides Our Community

Dear Editor,

As a gay man with over 30 years experience as an GLBTI rights advocate, I am embarrassed by and ashamed of the opposition from some in our community to the addition of transgender people to the Employment Non Discrimination Act (ENDA). It is just plain selfish to say that we should work to end discrimination against lesbians, gays, and bisexuals now, but transgender people will have to wait. The opposition to adding transgender people to ENDA suggest an attitude of; "I want what's good for me and I don't care about other people's needs."

I see no particular reason why lesbians, gays, and bisexuals should go first. They don't merit protection more than transgender people. In fact, one could reasonably argue that transgender people should get protections first. Society is much more accepting of lesbians and gays than they used to be. Transgender people experience more discrimination and persecution. Can we be sure that lesbians, gays, and bisexuals will work as hard for transgender rights in the future if an ENDA, without transgender people, is passed. My experience tells me that's not likely.

Some say adding transgender people to ENDA will make it harder to pass. Frankly, we have spent 30 years trying to gain passage of legislation that protects only lesbians gays and bisexuals. The first attempt was made by Representative Bella Abzug, D-New York in 1975. She attempted to add sexual orientation to the Civil Rights Act of 1964. After 30 years of trying, we have to admit the exclusion of transgender people is a failed strategy. Rather than fighting to exclude an important segment of the GLBTI community from ENDA we should be focusing on finding the real reasons for the failure of our current strategy. We should concentrate on determining what changes are needed to gain passage of ENDA. Clearly we need a better plan.

One problem with the current strategy is that it divides our community. As a civil rights advocate, I know, the more people working in support of a bill the more likely it is to pass. Adding transgender people to ENDA is likely to increase the number of individuals and organizations working in support of the bill.

For 30 years we have been telling transgender people be patient we'll get to you later. It will probably take another 10 to 20 years, at least, to get Congress to pass ENDA. Is it reasonable to ask transgender people to wait 40-50 years BEFORE WE EVEN START to work on protecting their rights? Clearly the answer is no. We should begin now to work hard for the rights of all the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community.

Boyce Hinman Chief Lobbyist The Lambda Letters Project

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Blas Crime reporting:

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SACRAMENTO POLICE DEPARTMENT Lt. Cara Westin 264-5990 Off. Barbara Schmacher 564-5471

SACPD ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS Linda Birner 441-6397 927-5651 Midge Marino

A REMINDER If you have an issue with the Sacramento Police Department, there is a group of SPD officers and civilians that volunteer to help facilitate better communications between the GLBT community and the SP Please call them with your concerns.

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SACRAMENTO'S PREMIERE GAY AND LESBIAN NEWSPAPER

VOLUME 27 ▼ ISSUE # 487 September 1, 2004

DOMES

FORUM LAMBDA LETTERS PROJECT

DOMES

DOMES LOCAL

LOCAL

LOCAL

10 LOCAL SPEAK OUT

FOOD

ENTERTAINMENT/FILM 12

ENTERTAINMENT

HIV NEWSLINE **HEALTH & WELLNESS**

18 DOMES

MISC

BUSINESS DIRECTORY 20 -

21 -CLASSIFIEDS

CALENDAR

23 - CALENDAR

Out Correcting...

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Two Important Bills **Get Final Legislative Approval**

LAMBDA LETTERS PROJECT

Recently the California
Assembly gave final legislative approval to two important bills. Both bills now go to the Governor for his signature or veto. The first bill was AB 2208 which was sponsored by Equality California and vigorously supported by the Lambda Letters Project. Lambda Letters delivered well over 18,000 letters and e-mail messages of support for this bill to elected officials. If AB 2208 is signed by the Governor, insurance companies regulated by the California Department of Insurance will be required to provide coverage to REGISTERED domestic partners of an insured to the same extent, and subject to the same terms and conditions, as provided to a spouse of an insured

person. This means when an insurer covers insureds and their spouses, they must also cover the registered domestic partners of their insureds. When they offer family premium discounts on the coverage for the spouses of their insureds, they must also offer the same premium discounts for the registered domestic partners of their insureds.

AB 2208 affects health insurance, auto insurance, long term care insurance among others. It could do much to make insurance more affordable to domestic partners and it will definitely do much to eliminate the current price discrimination against domestic partners when they shop for insurance. The approval of this bill by the legislature is a major victory.

The second bill approved by the Assembly is AB 2871. The Lambda Letters Project delivered over 11,000 letters and e-mails in support of this bill. Under current law cities and counties in California can establish clean needle exchange programs. These programs are vital to curtailing the spread of HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases through the sharing of dirty needles. Under these programs it is legal for program employees to be in possession of clean needles and syringes for exchange with intravenous drug users. These programs take dirty needles out of circulation and thus reduce the sharing of blood borne diseases among intravenous drug users and their sexual

The rub is that to establish and maintain these programs the city council or county board of supervisors is required to declare a health state of emergency. The declaration must be renewed every two weeks. This puts city councils and county boards of supervisors under tremendous political pressure from those who oppose clean needle and syringe exchange programs. Every two weeks those groups can pressure local governments to drop the program.
AB 2871 ends the

requirement that local governments declare and redeclare states of emergency to establish and maintain clean needle and exchange programs. It will probably encourage more local

governments to establish these programs. And that will do much to slow the spread of HIV/AIDS and other blood borne diseases. We at Lambda Letters congratulate the Assembly for their passage of these two important bills. Both bills now need to be signed by the Governor. The Lambda Letters Project will soon issue e-mail alerts with information people can use in writing the Governor in support of the bills. Others, not on Lambda Letters' e-mail alert list are encouraged to call or Fax the Governor's office.

The Governor's phone numbers are as follows: (916) 445-2841 Phone (916) 445-4633 FAX

............ 13th ANNUAL SACRAMENTO INTERNATIONAL GAY & LESBIAN FILM FESTIVAL



Opening Night Gala Reception

Wednesday, October 6 • 5:30 - 7: 00 pm Limited tickets available • Cost: \$35 Catering: Refer-a-Chef • Wines: Watts Winery (Includes admission to the first night of the festival.)

October 6-10 at the Crest Theater

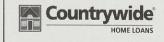


FEATURING THE FILM

Featuring the acting debut and music of openly-agy "American Idol" Jim Verraros, EATING OUT has played to sold-out festival audiences all over the country and the world and garnered numerous awards for its superb acting performances and side-splitting funny dialogue.

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Tickets - Still only \$8.50 Festival passes - \$35 (With pass to Opening Night Gala Reception - \$60)

For more information: www.siglff.org

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT (after Sep. 1):



Sacramento, CA 95814 Phone: (916) 442-7378



910 21st St. Sacramento, CA 95814 Phone: (916) 498-1004























Domes .

CA Becomes First State To Officially Oppose Federal Constitutional Restrictions

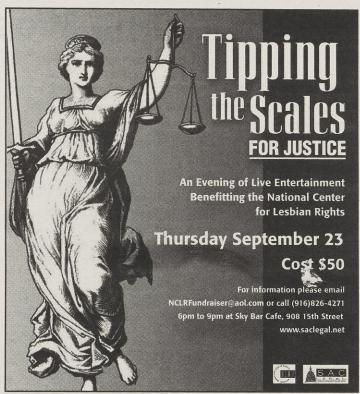
The California Legislature will give final approval to Assembly Joint Resolution 85, which opposes any "federal enactment designed to prohibit or restrict the rights, responsibilities, or obligations of same-sex couples." Copies of the resolution will be sent to the President, members of Congress, and each state's legislature. As the official policy of California, the resolution stands in contrast to other efforts nationwide and in Washington, DC to

amend state and federal constitutions.

AJR 85 by lead author Assemblymember Mark Leno (D-San Francisco) and over forty other members of the legislature joining as co-authors has also received broad support from over 50 organizations, including labor, civil rights, and religious.

It is also expected that the Legislature will give final approval to a resolution (AJR 60 by Assemblymember Sally Lieber) in support of the federal Permanent Partners Immigration Act (PPIA) and to the California Insurance Equality Act (AB 2208 by Assemblywoman Christine Kehoe). The PPIA will allow same-sex binational couples to stay together under the immigration principle of family unification. AB 2208 will ensure that all insurance policies issued in the state treat registered domestic partners and married spouses equally. ightharpoonup

Info: www.eqca.org



Gay Governor Resigns In New Jersey In a shocking and very McGreevey admitted that he is the only one res

In a shocking and very unexpected declaration, New Jersey Governor James McGreevey revealed to reporters and the country he is gay as he announced his resignation during a press conference in Trenton.

The announcement came as

McGreevey admitted that he had an affair with another man who had once worked for him as a bodyguard and security advisor. McGreevey, whose administration has rocked by several fundraising scandals over the last few months, said he

is the only one responsible for his actions. He said he decided to resign because his current situation left him and the governor's office "vulnerable." McGreevey's resignation takes effect on November 15.

Every 1st & 3rd Sunday Estate Auctions August 21, September 5 & 19 10076 Mills Station Rd Sacramento 361-8491

Medical Marijuana Patients Go To Court

Tedical marijuana Mpatients want their medicine back. Too often, according to a report by an advocacy group to be released, local and state law enforcement is seizing the marijuana to which patients are legally entitled, and not giving it back. More then 36 patients will be in their respective county courthouses filing motions for return of that marijuana. The report and mass court action have been put together by California based Americans for Safe Access, the largest national advocacy group working soley on medical marijuana.

A recent Field poll shows

that Proposition 215, the 1996 law that ensures the right of patients to possess, use and cultivate marijuana has support of 4 in 5 voters. In January the legislature put into effect a new measure that expands and clarifies that law, including provisions for an ID system that gaurentees freedom from arrest for qualifying patients.

Nonetheless, a threemonth study conducted by Americans for Safe Access found property violations in more then half the counties in the state. And even the California Highway Patrol has seized marijuana from authorized patients and refused to return it. Medical marijuana patients in California are able to file Motions for Return of Property in criminal court to reclaim their marijuana, without having to go through a civil trial. If the marijuana has been destroyed or has deteriorated, the local government is responsible for compensating the patient for the value of the property lost or rendered unusable.

The study found that most law enforcement agencies in California simply do not have policies for identifying patients legally entitled to have marijuana.

Info: SafeAccessNow.corg





Thousands Line Streets In Protest Of President Bush

ore than 30 city Iblocks had been shut down for an anti-Bush protest that drew at least 120,000 people and possibly many thousands more demonstrating against the Bush administration's economic policies. An estimated 1,000 people rallied opposite the United Nations headquarters, and several thousand others marched to within two blocks of the Madison Square Garden convention arena in a demonstration accusing Republicans of ignoring the poor and

AIDS. Elsewhere in the city, scattered protesters took aim at Republican visitors. Police formed lines between the protesters, some of whom wore giant papier-mâché masks of Bush, Vice **President Dick Cheney** and National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice.

Also, the group that organized the enormous demonstration, United for Peace and Justice, found its headquarters a target of protest by pro-Bush demonstrators from a group called

those living with HIV and ProtestWarrior. About 15 members, chanting "Four more years!" and "USA! USA!", targeted the anti-Bush group. There were no reports of major violence and about 250 scattered arrests.

> The march snaked in a circular route around midtown Manhattan, shutting down dozens of blocks and bringing out hordes of police in a city already girded against terrorist attacks.

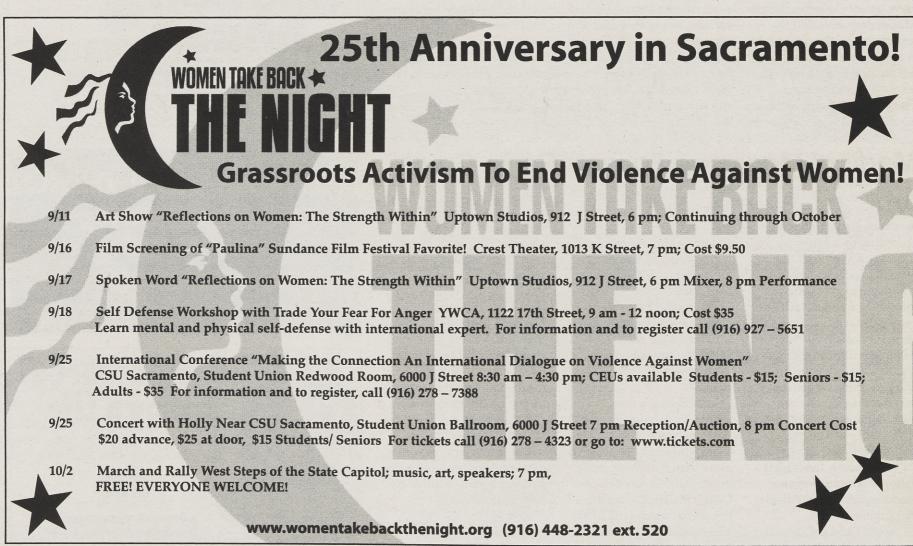
> In the largest set of arrests, some 50 protesters on bicycles who stopped near the parade route were carted

away in an off-duty city bus. Also, 10 people were arrested after someone set a paper dragon float afire near Madison Square Garden, and nine demonstrators were charged with assault after trying to prevent the arrest. In a smaller protest, police used clubs briefly to disperse a handful of demonstrators holding a "kiss-in" not far from Times Square. There were no immediate details about injuries or arrests.

Residents leaned from windows along the demonstration route

to shout their support. Scattered opposition was visible only around Madison Square Garden, where the GOP convention opened.

The causes varied as much as the people shouting support: immigrants' rights, gay rights, universal health care, the Palestinian cause, an end to the killing in Sudan. The protest organizers, United for Peace and Justice, had sued unsuccessfully to force the city to allow a rally in Central Park. City officials said such a rally would damage lawns. V





4th Annual AIDS Walk

Still Recruiting

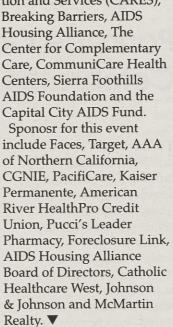
The Sacramento Valley AIDS Walk is building up steam. Only two weeks before the 4th Annual Sacramento Valley AIDS walk, officials are working behind the scenes to recruit more and more walkers. Recently Starbucks hosted Walk recruiters at two of their downtown stores. The internet has been burning up with messages from Walk headquarters to generate even more interest. All of these efforts are bearing fruit. More teams, walkers and moeny are committed to the 2004 event than in the past three years. Over 100 new walkers were recently recruited through events hosted by Grand Sponsors, Target and Faces. The goal this year is \$250,000 and

with community support it will be reached.

All interested parties are asked to sign up immediately by going on line at www.capcityaidsfund.org and clicking on the AIDS Walk logo or by calling the Walk office at (800) 583-1134. The 4th Annual AIDS Walk is on Sunday, September 12, 2004 on the West steps of the State Capitol. Fifteen local HIV/AIDS service organizations have been selected to receive funding in the 2004 Sacramento Valley AIDS Walk and the community is invited to help them achieve their goals.

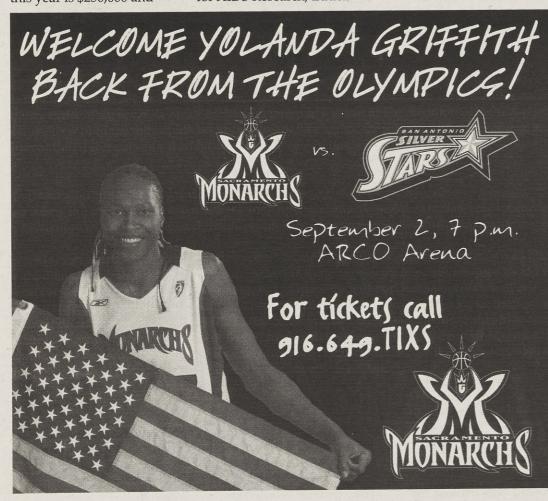
The Sacramento Valley AIDS Walk is a collaborative effort organized by representatives from the Center for AIDS Research, Education and Services (CARES), Breaking Barriers, AIDS Housing Alliance, The Center for Complementary Care, CommuniCare Health Centers, Sierra Foothills AIDS Foundation and the Capital City AIDS Fund. Sponosr for this event include Faces, Target, AAA of Northern California, CGNIE, PacifiCare, Kaiser Permanente, American River HealthPro Credit Union, Pucci's Leader AIDS Housing Alliance Healthcare West, Johnson & Johnson and McMartin

www.capcityaidsfund.org















Happy 50th

Parkside Community Church, UCC Celebrates 50TH Anniversary

In the midst of the 1950's spacious farmland, a new housing development was under construction to meet needs of Sacramento's growing families. Residents of the new community, now known as the Land Park area, wanted a neighborhood church where everyone would be welcome. Parkside Community Church was begun by a few dozen people as an intentionally multicultural, multi-racial congregation, open to all people regardless of their previous religious background. Their first church service was held above the garage in the home of founding members, Rudolph and Ann Volz on September 27, 1954. A year later, Rev. Lewis J. Knight became the first minister of Parkside, serving the 30 church members three days a week. In February of 1956, Parkside Community Church was accepted into affiliation with the Sacramento Association of Congregational Churches which merged the following year with Evangelical and Reformed Churches to become the United Church of Christ. On Easter Sunday, 1958, ground was broken for

Parkside's own church

building on the present site at 35th Avenue and South Land Park Drive. Five years after they first met, services were held in their new sanctuary to a membership of 207.

membership of 207. This year, on September 26, 2004, Parkside Community Church will be celebrating 50 years of ministry. It continues to be an active congregation that is welcoming to everyone regardless of race, culture, or sexual orientation. Parkside Community Church was the first congregation in the Sacramento Valley Association of UCC Churches to become "Open and Affirming" to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community. It was the first UCC church in the Sacramento area to call a female solo pastor, the Rev. Susan Hamilton, who has been with Parkside for nine years. In 1996, Parkside was the first UCC congregation in the state of California to establish a Health Ministry with a staff Parish Nurse, Rebecca Anton. They were also the first to receive grants from the national and regional United Church of Christ for their Health Ministry which offers education, advocacy, and support to individuals as they pursue wholeness in body, mind, and

spirit. This pioneering ministry at Parkside offers weekly classes in Tai Chi, Restorative Yoga, and several series on preventive health subjects.

The congregation remains committed to supporting national and regional mission projects such as the SSIP (South Sacramento Interfaith Partnership) Food Closet housed at Bethany Presbyterian Church and Church World Service's annual CROP Walk. which raises funds for programs to feed the hungry. On October 23rd, Parkside will hold its 2nd Annual Family Fun Festival and this year, we will donate a portion of our proceeds to the SSIP Food Closet. Admission for the Festival will be cans and/or boxes of non-perishable food which will be forwarded to the Food Closet.

Parkside Community
Church invites you to
join their unique and
progressive congregation
as they celebrate their 50
years of vital ministry
in South Land Park and
plan for future expansion!
Parkside Community
Church, UCC... no
matter who, no matter
what, no matter where
you are on your life's
journey, you're welcome
here. ▼

Info: 421-0492



District Attorney Citizens Academy Accepting Applications

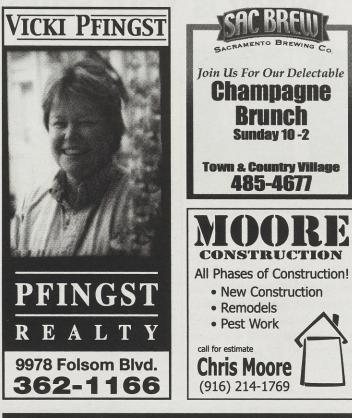
Citizens Academy is a 10-week course designed to engage minority communities in communication, participation, and mutual learning on the criminal justice system, diversity, and race issues within the framework of the criminal justice system. While the mission of the Academy is to provide information and resources, mutual learning, critical analysis of issues, and exchange of ideas and perspectives; the vision of the Academy is to achieve improved relations and communication between diverse communities and the criminal justice system.

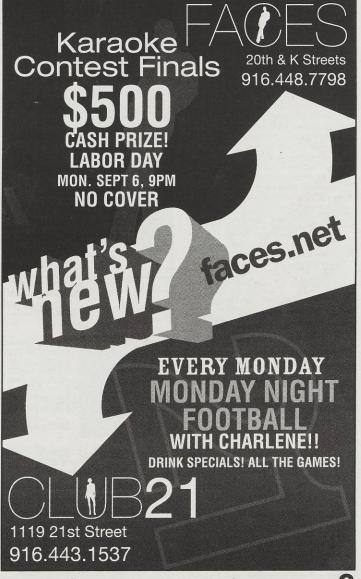
A first of its kind, several unique components to Citizens Academy are as follows:

- 1. Selection of a broad range of topics for discussion: Beyond providing an important overview of the criminal justice system (the roles and challenges of the District Attorney, law enforcement, and judicial system), the Academy devotes three classes to diversity and race issues within the framework of the criminal justice system. The three topics are: Multicultural Sensitivity in the Criminal Justice System, Race as a Factor in the Criminal Justice System, and Perceptions of Disparate Treatment in the Criminal Justice System.
- 2. Input from the diverse communities: The selection of the three topics on diversity and race issues was obtained from the diverse communities through a Citizens Survey.
- 3. Selection of a diverse group of speakers: We bring together a diverse group of speakers from the district attorney's office, judiciary, law enforcement, defense bar, media, and community leaders.
- 4. Selection of a diverse group of participants. Our class members represent the various ethnic, faith and diverse communities in Sacramento. They are community leaders and individuals with a strong sense of community and commitment to building bridges between the criminal justice system and the various ethnic, faith and diverse communities.

The 10-week Fall 2004 Academy will meet Wednesday evenings, beginning September 8, 2004, for a two and a half hour class at McGeorge School of Law. Citizens Academy is sponsored by the District Attorney's office through a federal grant at no cost to participants.

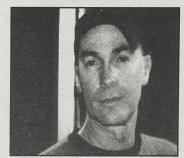
For more information, please contact,
Supervising Deputy District Attorney Karen Maxwell
Citizens Academy Coordinator
(916) 874-4575 or maxwellK@saccounty.net
Visit us @ http://da.saccounty.net/citizensacademy





come a modern grow of the appropriate to a since a section abstraction of the

What Is Your Favorite Part Of The CA State Fair?



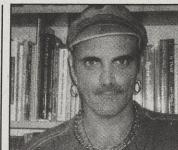
Brad Smit San Jose Scrub Nurse

My favorite part would be the 4H club, Future Farmers of America, & the Clydsdale Horses. I also enjoy the art & science buildings and watching all the people who attend.



Jeannette McDunnah Sacramento Artist

My favorite part of the fair is always the ferris wheel. I love carnival food after I have tried all the rides, & also love the animals and cute cowgirls!



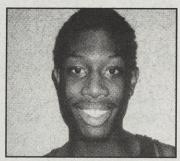
Robby Hixon Sacramento Eligible Bachelor

My favorite ride at the fair is the tilt-a-whirl. The live stage shows and concerts are a great attraction. The state fair is a fun place to take your kids and even a date.



Leslie Cox Sacramento Coach

The concerts are the big attraction. The midway corndogs, the blooming onion & cinnamon rolls are delicious. The exhibits are also very interesting.



Marquis Bryant San Francisco College Student

The midway rides are really awesome at the fair. Corn dogs really rock with the funnel cakes. The water world attraction is the cool place to hang out. The fair is more fun with friends & family.

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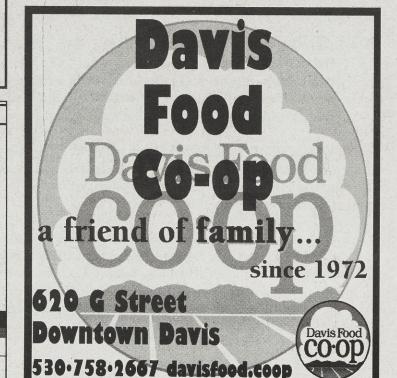
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A Trendy Treat: Tapa the World

By Katrina Torres MGW Staff

Thile trendy and new V doesn't often pull me in, different does. After all, trendy is often a matter of socially dictated tastes, and new just means that they haven't worked out the bugs yet, and I'm not into amateur night. What I am into is really good food, and what can I say? Tapa's has really good food. And the atmosphere doesn't hurt either.

My companion and I planted ourselves at the Spanish tiled, low-ceilinged bar, about 9 PM, enjoying the gentle auditory

massage of the flamenco guitarist folded around his instrument at the small stage by the front door.

We found ourselves surrounded by warm tones of nutbrown and ochre, with intricately embroidered Spanish shawls draping the walls, accented by the brass-tacked, leather covered chairs, a collection of small, hand painted ollas, and a Spanish flag hanging in the front window. While in fairly close quarters, the atmosphere was casual, comfortable and humming, without being loud or

stuffy; a good place to share an intimate table or meet friends for a drink and some late night nibbles.

We started with a glass of a pretty decent house red and an assortment of appetizers. It wasn't easy to decide, but we settled on the Champinones al Ajillo, the Queso Espanol del dia, the Boquerones and the Aceintunas, with a side of the must-have dipping sauce for the basket of assorted breads that accompany every order.

The Champinones, fresh mushrooms sautéed in

olive oil, plenty of fresh chopped garlic, parsley and white wine were excellent, with the perfect balance of garlic and wine that made us sop up every last drop of luscious juice from the serving dish. The Queso turned out to be a fairly good, slightly smoky cheese from the Basque country. The serving was not what I would call generous, and if it had been just a little better, I would have said that there wasn't enough of it. The Aceitunas were a "selection of olives from Spain and around the world", some

a tad bitter but most quite good. Tell them to leave out the dark little bitter ones, and go heavy on the big green ones.

The Boquerones are imported Spanish white anchovies, my personal favorite of everything we tried. Marinated in vinegar and olive oil, with a garnish of fresh chopped parsley and a couple of green Spanish olives, they were very flavorful without being the least bit "fishy" or mushy. The silvery-white little fish were excellent draped over the soft, fresh

continued on page 19

Featuring

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A Sweet Treasure From Nature's Cornucopia

By Maggie Bowen **MGW Staff**

Cummer without a slice of watermelon is no summer at Oall. Not only is watermelon one of the sweetest treasures in nature's cornucopia, but it is also a primary source of lycopene, a red pigment and powerful antioxidant found in just a few other plants such as tomatoes, red grapefruit and guava.

For humans, the purpose of lycopene is to neutralize the singlet oxygen that forms as a byproduct to biological processes. This singlet oxygen, if not neutralized, can attack and destroy cell membranes, damage cells and ultimately,

Recently, scientists have discovered that watermelon is as good a source for lycopene as raw tomatoes. This good news means that watermelon is a sweet, tasty treat, a healthy source of the much-needed antioxidant lycopene, as well as a good source of vitamins A and C. With only 92 calories per slice, (1/16 of a melon), watermelon is low in calories and fat, high in fiber and has zero cholesterol.

All parts of the melon are edible. You can roast the seeds, pickle the rind and use the juicy flesh in a variety of desserts. Watermelon, of course, is best when served cold.

Uncut, a melon can be stored for at least a week in the refrigerator or in a cool dark place for four or five days. After the melon is cut, it can be tightly wrapped and refrigerated for two or three days.

When using watermelon in fruit salad, wait until just before serving the dish to add the melon to the mixture. This will keep the salad from getting too watery.

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Zach Braff finds himself in one of the strange and hilarious moments in the romantic comedy GARDEN STATE



Garden State

Starring Zach Braff, Natalie Portman, Peter Sarsgaard, Ian Holm. Written and directed by Zach Braff. (Rated R, 106 min.)



Natalie Portman and Zach Braff take a strange trip through the very funny and touching GARDEN STATE

They say you can't go home again. But you'll never know what happens to you if you don't give it a try. Garden State follows what happens when a man goes home to attend his mother's funeral and ends up finding strengths within himself that he never knew existed.

Starting from the first scene, you can tell that Garden State is going to be good: funny, observant, yet also somewhat surreal. Andrew Largeman (Zach Braff) is having a nightmare about being on an airplane that's going down in flames. Amid all the terror-stricken passengers on board, "Large," as he's called, looks ahead with a vacant expression, totally unresponsive to the chaos around him. His only reaction is to raise a hand towards the overhead controls and dial up the cool air blowing out the nozzle.

Large lives in a Lithium-induced haze that his doctor father, Gideon (Ian Holm), has prescribed with questionable ethics ever since he was a kid. Although he has achieved minor fame in madefor-TV movies, Large has never been able to shake the mental grip his father has on him, nor discover his true self.

Upon his return home to New Jersey for the weekend to attend his mother's funeral, Large meets up with some buddies he hasn't seen since

high school. Somewhat predictably, these people consist of various pot-smoking losers who live dropout lives, whether as a gravedigger (Peter Sarsgaard), fast-food "associate," or pyramid schemer. One of them, who used to snort lines on urinals, now finds himself in uniform pulling over speeders. Another one lives off the millions he made selling his "silent Velcro" invention.

Not so predictable, however, is the manner in which Large meets these folks from his past and interacts with them. They aren't there solely for amusement's sake; they reflect his past and contrast his present state of mind. Although they have made some kind of life for themselves, such as it is, he is still trying to find his own.

Large is open to changes. When he meets Sam (Natalie Portman), he's taken aback by her stability, despite her quirky nature and unusual family. She makes him feel safe for the first time to lose himself to his emotions. This makes him feel vulnerable yet also very much alive.

Garden State is both a love story and a personal journey through post-adolescence. While Large drives Sam around the neighborhood, stopping in to visit with various odd birds from his past, he puts off having any meaningful contact with his dad, who desperately wants to talk to him.

From his regular stint on the NBC-TV series "Scrubs," Braff knows how to handle offbeat humor. But Garden State is so much more than a big-screen sitcom; it is also refreshingly without melodrama. As the writer, Braff has crafted an affectionate screenplay that eschews the Hollywood three-act structure and dares to abandon characters shortly after introducing them. In essence, his story is as unpredictable as life, yet contains enough continuity not to lose audiences altogether.

Best of all, director Braff lets the actors act – but not overact. His camera lingers on them so we catch their nuances and things sink in. Yet he knows when to employ cinematic flourishes for good effect. The various sight gags are brilliant. So too is the dialog and playful interaction among the characters. Garden State is a film you could watch again and see anew each time. Braff clearly took the time to get things right, and the payoff is a quality movie for thinking adults, not horny teenagers in search of mindless action. ightharpoonup

Garden State plays in Sacramento at UA Market Square. Info: gardenstatemovie.com.



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Entertainment

Sacramento, I'll Take The Old

By Merle Exit **MGW Staff**

I'll be blunt. If not for the IWFL Championship game between the Sacramento Sirens and the New York Sharks, I wouldn't have schlepped to Sacramento. Other than the outcome of the game, I had an enjoyable 4 days.

My stay for the first two nights was at the Hilton Garden Inn in South Natomas. The hotel was a bit out of the way and quiet. I needed to relax. Room was first class with a microwave and refrigerator...to store my much needed bottled water. Although they had a pool, my only swimming experience was with the Sharks.

I had a quick tour of the downtown area, but nothing in particular really drove me to partake in a walking tour. Perhaps it was the heat or my lack of interest in history. My interest in the arts, did, however, draw me to a show at the Wells Fargo Pavilion (as previously

written).

The New York Sharks were staying at the Hawthorn Suites on Bercut Drive. They had the advantage of having a free shuttle bus to Old Sacramento. I set up a rather inexpensive deal for their rooms, which also included a breakfast buffet. An after game party was also set up, but fell through as the contact person was on vacation at the time and no one knew about it.

Memphis BarBQ agreed to stay open late and it was certainly to their advantage between the players' hunger and thirst. I don't know which profited more, the BQ or the Bar. My take on the food was good, but not great. It was rather late in the day and a professional critique wouldn't be fair.

The team's lunch...meal before the big game...was at the Hungry Hunter, located just across the street from the Hawthorn Suites. They had carbs. I'm not a football

player. I had prime rib, of which the Hungry Hunter is noted for. Noteworthy given.

I spent most of my time in Old Sacramento. It was easier in the heat as I could just duck into an air-conditioned store for a breather. I highly recommend an excursion on the Spirit of Sacramento, but not when food is included. Sunday Brunch. I partake in a seafood stew. I cut into and taste a scallop. Not the least bit chewy. No wonder. It's still raw! Stew was only tepid. Conversation with the manager to find out that most of food served onboard is frozen. To add to this, one of the guy's serving drinks and busing has black grease on his clothing and a bit disheveled. I later found out that his main job was in the engine room. I found sanctum conversing with the ship's captain and was even privy to steering the

Dinner at Rio City Café made up for boat note. The waiter greeted me with, "Hi, my name is....and I'll be your waiter". I said, "Hi. My name is Merle, and I'll be your patron". Appetizer of Dungeness Crab Cakes, salad of mixed greens with crumbled feta cheese, entrée of Ahi Tuna and Crème Brulee for dessert. You know what "desserts" spelled backwards is. Now that was great food!

The third night of my stay was at the Delta King Hotel. Beautiful vessel and very comfortable room. I was able to get a corner room that faced both the river and the Tower Bridge. The golden reflection on the water and docked Spirit of Sacramento ship would make for an excellent post card.

Due to other plans I was unable to partake in the cuisine at the Pilot House, but did enjoy "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now

Waiting here now in my bed

And I'd like to talk to you...

Change" a the Delta King Theatre. It was equivalent to seeing an Off-Broadway show in both the size and performance. The cast did not lack for both vocal and acting talent. "Deathtrap" appears to be the next play. Hmmm...I detect a gay theme about to approach, running September 17th through November 7th.

I made it a point to hop aboard the Sacramento Southern Railroad and take a quick tour of the California State Railroad Museum. Candy Heaven was a hoot. I passed up on the candy, except for the gummy bear sharks.

Having the underground access from Old Sacramento to the downtown shopping mall certainly creates a past and present of Sacramento and would consider returning when the weather is a bit cooler. \(\nbeggriagrage\)

Melissa Ethridge: Lucky in Reno

By Cassandra Davis Guest Writer

Some musicians have a fan club. Melissa Etheridge has a loyal army. And, after seeing her performance on Saturday, August 21st at the City Center Pavillion, it is easy to understand why. The concert was held in an auditorium more accustomed to holding business seminars than a crowd of sunburned, halfdrunk lesbians. Before the show, the crowd milled around the beer and souvenir stands in the spacious lobby, connected with friends, and made their way to their assigned metal folding chairs. When the band walked onstage, they cheered; when Melissa Etheridge entered, they stood and roared. Motivational speakers fantasize about the energy

she generated just by walking onstage.

Etheridge dove right into a strong rendition of her newest album's title song "Lucky", backed by her talented band: guitarist
Philip Sayce, drummer Kenny Aronoff, and bassist Mark Browne. One determined fan with a sad face managed to trade a glowing, spinning light stick for an autograph. When another handed up a black leather vest, Etheridge teased Sayce into sporting it for much of the show. The gifts kept coming. She briefly held a rose between her teeth, performing a short mock-tango before proclaiming "I can't sing like that." An assortment of other flashy baubles, tshirts, and presents from

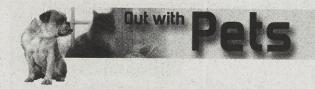
the stage during the course of the concert, each one bringing another laugh, followed by an explanation that other musicians are quite jealous of her fans and their generosity. This, of course, only prompted more offerings.
When it came to pleasing the crowd, none of the gifts were any competition for the cell-phone she grabbed during "If You Want To". She proceeded to call, and converse with, a somewhatinebriated and awed fan, Barb, in New Jersey, as the band played on in the background. And then she sang into the phone: Yes that's what I said

fans made their way up to

And the crowd screamed along. Melissa Etheridge and her band managed – without light shows, special effects, or even a change of costume - to reach an entertainment level worthy of Madison Square Garden, while still keeping the feeling of intimacy and crowd interaction found from a cozy local band playing at the bar. She rocked the guitar, blasting through a set of songs, including "If I Wanted To," "Angels Would Fall", and pausing at the potent message in "Silent Legacy" before taking a softer, darker journey. I'm not breathing, I'm not The real power of her music bled through the emotional

chills that reverberated through the small venue as she played a low, raw version of "Scarecrow", a piece written about the brutal murder of Matthew **Shepard**. The song blended into a powerful rendition of "Tuesday Morning", a tribute to Mark Bingham, one of the four heroes on Flight 93. Cracked voices from the audience sang "You cannot change this / You can't erase this / You can't pretend this is not the truth." She came away from the rawness of those songs with a soft "Sleep While I Drive" followed by a beautiful piano rendition of "Weakness She quickly brought the crowd back to their feet when it came to her classic,

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Positive Reinforcement:

Training Your Dog Or Cat With Treats And Praise

Positive reinforcement is the presentation of something pleasant or rewarding immediately following a behavior. It makes that behavior more likely to occur in the future, and is one of the most powerful tools for shaping or changing your pet's behavior. Correct timing is essential when using positive reinforcement. The reward must occur immediately, or your pet may not associate it with the proper action. For example, if you have your dog "sit," but reward him after he's already stood up again, he'll think he's being rewarded

for standing up.
Consistency is also
essential. Everyone in the family should use the same commands. It might be helpful to post these where everyone can become familiar with them. The most commonly used commands for dogs are "watch me," "sit," "stay," "down" (means lie down),
"off" (means off of me or off the furniture), "stand,"
"come," "heel," (or "let's
go" or "with me") "leave it"
and "settle." Consistency means always rewarding the desired behavior and never rewarding undesired behavior.

For your pet, positive reinforcement may include food treats, praise, petting or a favorite toy or game. Food treats work especially well for training your dog. A treat should be enticing and irresistible to your pet. It should be a very small, soft, piece of food, so that he will immediately gulp it down and look to you for more. If you give him something he has to chew or that breaks into bits and falls on the floor, he'll be looking around the floor, not at you. Small pieces of soft commercial treats, hot dogs, cheese, cooked chicken or beef, or miniature marshmallows have all proven successful.

Experiment a bit to see what works best for your pet. You may carry the treats in a pocket or a fanny pack on the front of your belt. There are even special treat packs available in many pet stores. Each time you use a food reward, you should couple it with a verbal reward (praise). Say something like, "Good boy" in a positive,

happy tone of voice. When your pet is learning a new behavior, he should be rewarded every time he does the behavior (continuous reinforcement). It may be necessary to use "shaping," with your pet (reinforcing something close to the desired response and gradually requiring more from your dog before he gets the treat). For example, if you're teaching your dog to "shake hands," you may initially reward him for lifting his paw off the ground, then for lifting it higher, then for touching your hand, then for letting you hold his paw and finally, for actually shaking hands with you. Intermittent reinforcement can be used once your pet has reliably learned the behavior. At first, you may reward him with the treat three times out of four, then about half the time, then about a third of the time and so forth, until you're only rewarding him occasionally with the treat. Continue to praise him every time, although once he's learned the behavior, the praise can be less effusive - a quiet, but positive, "Good boy." Use a variable schedule of reinforcement, so he doesn't catch on that he only has to respond every other time. Your pet will learn that if he keeps responding, eventually he'll get what he wants. If you have a dog who barks until you reward him by paying attention to him, you've seen the power of intermittent reinforcement. By understanding

reinforcement, you can see that you're not forever bound to carry a pocketful of goodies. Your pet will soon be working for your verbal praise, because he really does want to please you and he knows that occasionally, he'll get a treat, too! There are many small opportunities to reinforce his behavior. You may have him "sit" before letting him out the door (helps prevent door-darting), before petting him (helps prevent jumping up on people) or before giving him his food. Give him a pat or a "Good dog" for lying quietly by your feet or slip a treat into his Kong toy when he's chewing it, instead of your shoe instead of your shoe.

Punishment, including verbal, postural and physical, is the presentation of something unpleasant immediately following a behavior, which makes it less likely that the behavior will occur again. To be effective, punishment must be delivered while your pet is engaged in the undesirable behavior, in other words, "caught in the act." If the punishment is delivered too late, your pet will feel "ambushed." From his point of view, the punishment is totally unpredictable, and he's likely to become fearful, distrusting and/or aggressive. This will only lead to more behavior problems. What we humans interpret as "guilty" looks, are actually submissive postures by our pets. Animals don't have a moral sense of right and wrong, but they are adept at associating your presence and the presence of a mess, with punishment.

If you've tried punishment and it hasn't worked, you should definitely stop using punishment and use positive reinforcement instead. Physical punishment usually involves some level of discomfort or even pain,

which is likely to cause your pet to bite, as that is the only way he knows to defend himself. Scruff shakes and "alpha rolls" are likely to result in bites, especially if the dog doesn't perceive you to be his superior. Also, punishment might be associated with other stimuli, including people, that are present at the time the punishment occurs. For example, a pet that's punished for getting too close to a small child may become fearful of or aggressive to that child. \(\nbeggressive\)





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By Sonya Cox AIDS/HIV Editor

Older Americans And HIV

By the end of the decade, the majority of AIDS cases will be in people over 50, say demographers. The US epidemic is quickly becoming one of the middle-aged and the old. During the 1990s, the number of Americans over age 50 infected with HIV quintupled.

"A conservative estimate would be that there are more than 100,000 now," says the Texan A&M professor who co-authored a Centers for Disease Control report on AIDS in older Americans. Thanks to anti-retroviral drugs and advances in treating secondary infections, people with HIV are living longer, the number of mother-to-child HIV cases has dropped dramatically, and very few hemophiliac children acquire now HIV from blood products, so the average age of those with HIV has climbed.

The medical impact of this shift is already becoming apparent and

may worsen as the cost of care escalates. Older people tend to take more medications, causing possible drug interactions with toxic HIV meds. AIDS drugs can often strain already weakened livers or worsen nerve problems. Those over 50 are more likely to be diagnosed later than average, when they are severely immunocompromised, and therefore their survival after diagnosis is usually

In addition, prevention efforts are challenging. Experts say older people are less likely to discuss their sex lives with doctors, doctors often do not broach the subject with them, and public health campaigns promoting safe sex are typically geared toward young people. A CDC survey shows that 44 percent of HIV-positive people age 60 or older did not know how they got the virus, while just 30 percent of those under 50 did not. ▼

South Africa Wants To Test AIDS Vaccine On Teens

The South African AIDS I Vaccine Initiative and the Nelson Mandela Foundation say they will work together on a program to create and test a preventative HIV vaccine on teenagers, a group most at risk for infection.

The partnership will enable the groups to harness the best minds in the vaccine area, says a Vaccine Initiative spokesperson, to develop a meaningful prevention-based response to the epidemic. The Vaccine Initiative, established by South Africa's health ministry to coordinate research and testing of HIV vaccines, is currently testing two preventative HIV vaccine candidates in South Africa, with the trials expected to take up to 10

"We don't want to end up with a vaccine that won't work in teenagers because it is believed that their high level of hormonal changes may impact on the effectiveness of a vaccine," they said. They noted that obtaining informed consent from parents may be a hurdle in involving teenagers in the trial, as many adolescents do not want their parents to know they are sexually active.

(HIV "vaccines" to date have not been able to prevent transmission of HIV, and are therefore not traditional "vaccinations." Some have been used in people already infected to slow down the virus in their bodies, and in this country trials are open only to informed adults. V

Parents Out Of Touch With Teens' Sex Lives

Eighty-four percent of 1,600 mothers and fathers responding to a national survey did not think their teenager was sexually active -- although recent government statistics show that nearly 50 percent of teens ages 14-18 have had sex. The survey was commissioned by the Society for Adolescent Medicine.

Of parents surveyed, 90 percent said they had initiated discussions about sex with their children, most by the time the children were 12 years old. 75 percent of them had talked about STDs with their children, and 88 percent said they had discussed HIV and AIDS. "It is important," said the surveyors, for parents to "have a dialogue with their adolescent regularly to ensure their teen remains healthy and happy through the high school years.'

Another recently released study from Emory University found that, while black teenage girls are more likely to have sex and are at higher risk of STDs than their white counterparts, the girls with high self-esteem were better equipped to decline unwanted sex or sex without a condom. The study measured self-esteem in 335 black girls who were

already sexually active, and noted that parents and educators should look at boosting self-esteem among

A similar survey in Alabama, aimed at finding out why HIV/ AIDS is spreading so quickly through inner-city neighborhoods, found that nearly 25 percent of the black teenage girls in the survey said they wanted to get pregnant. In order to achieve this goal, the girls paired up with much older men or had casual sex with younger men. A study follow-up found that 80 girls (18 percent of total participants between 14 and 18) were pregnant within six months of completing the

Other studies have suggested these teens want babies in order to love someone, or to be loved by someone, or to be independent of their families. The Alabama study noted that federal or local programs that focus on teen sexual abstinence or condom use as a primary way to prevent the spread of STDs such as HIV/AIDS may not get through to girls who do not see any drawbacks to getting

pregnant. V

Heart Drugs May Slow Virus

Statin drugs that lower cholesterol levels and reduce the risk of heart disease may also help slow down the AIDS virus, say Spanish researchers conducting a small study. The drugs seem to stop the virus from infecting cells by stopping them from opening the cell membrane, and stop the virus from getting out of already infected cells, the team at the Spanish Council for Scientific Research in Madrid reported.

The researchers wanted to see if the statins by themselves affect the course of infection, and merit consideration as an antiretroviral treatment. They first tested HIV-infected cells in a lab dish and

then in mice. Test results, they said, suggest that HIV entry into and exit from the host cell require cell rearrangement and adequate cholesterol levels in the host membranes.
They then tested six people

infected with HIV who had not yet begun HAART therapy, and treated them with lovastatin for a month. Levels of the virus fell, and T-cell count went up. When the group stopped taking the statin, the viral levels rebounded, the researchers reported. The data, they reported. The data, they report, suggest that statins can inhibit HIV replication in people with chronic HIV, and support future clinical studies of statins as possible anti-retroviral agents.

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Donald Sturtevant • Raymond Schiever September 1996: Lonny Brinsfield • Daril A. Timothy P.

September 1997: James Bryson • Garry Lee Becker September 1999: Erik Kraft

September 2000: Chuck Holmes • Alvin Hendrickson ("Miss Vena Las Vegas") Mike Florian

September 2001: **Bill Hause** September 2002:

Charley Eveland September 2003:

Todd Cant Timothy Roquers-Potter Ken Holycross

As long as you are remembered, you live!

To add the names of loved ones to MGW's remembrance column, call 737-0309.

Homophobia **And Health Care**

We as gay men deserve the best that health care professionals can give us and if we feel that homophobia is involved in our patient/health care provider relationships we need to make a change. Our mental and physical health is too important for us to shortchange ourselves by staying with health care practitioners who do not have our best interests at heart because we will be receiving substandard care.

Here are a few facts from recent surveys that can show us that homophobia in the U.S. health care system is not just in our minds. The American Association of Physicians for Human Rights in a survey taken of its own members in 1994 reported the following:

67% answered that they knew gay men, lesbians and bisexuals who had either received substandard care or even been denied care because of sexual orientation.

52% had literally witnessed their health care colleagues giving reduced care or even denying care to gay men, lesbians and bisexual patients based on their sexual orientation.

88% had actually heard their colleagues make disparaging remarks about gay men, lesbians or bisexual patients.

The American Medical Association in a survey conducted in 1991 reported that:

35% of general practitioners and internists would feel nervous around gay people.

35% felt that homosexuality is a threat to many of our basic social institutions.

With over one-third of internists and general practitioners feeling uncomfortable with us and having at least a subliminal need to protect what they perceive as the status quo ("it's us against them"), can we expect to receive even the minimum standard of health care from "over one-third of internists and general practitioners" in this country that would be free of their personal distastes, prejudices and hidden hostility? Of course not. Their own homophobia would influence the quality of health care they provide.

In the four-year medical schools in the U.S. the average time during those entire four years devoted to the subject of homosexuality was 3 hours and 26 minutes -- this for a group that makes up nearly 10% of the U.S. population. It seems that far from being a priority, we are an embarrassment. Gay patients have reported negative reactions from providers of health care including moralizing, disgust and breaches of confidence.

This is the opposite kind of experience and relationship we need to have with our health care providers. We need to be open and honest when we interact with professionals in the health care system and be able not only to discuss general health problems but sexual practices as well which can put us at different risks for health problems than say the sexual practices of heterosexual patients. This is certainly not to say that we cannot receive quality and compassionate care from heterosexual women and men -- we can. But we have to make certain that they have knowledge about the health issues facing gay men or at least can refer us to appropriate health care providers who are not homophobic. In the last decade we have shown that as a group we have some new political and economic clout -- let's use it. We are consumers in the health care system. Let's not buy something that's no good for us. V



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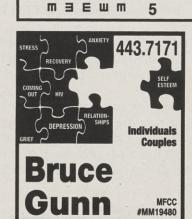
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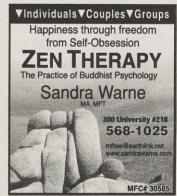
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In Response To California Supreme Court Ruling

After The Court Decision, The Following Statements Were Made

People For the American Way, a civil rights and constitutional liberties organization with 675,000 members and supporters nationwide, supports full legal equality for GLBT Americans and strongly opposes efforts to amend the U.S. Constitution to require that states discriminate against gay couples seeking to get married.

The National Black Justice Coalition (NBJC) is disappointed with the decision by the California Supreme Court that the City of San Francisco lacked the authority to issue marriage licenses to same- sex couples. "I'm sorry to hear that so many couples who had fought for so long to be married will have to continue fighting. Many of the 4,000 couples who were married in San Francisco were African-Americans," stated NBJC Board Member Sylvia Rhue "We're used to fighting discrimination and we'll continue to fight to end discrimination in this area too." "This is by far not the end of the fight to legalize same- sex marriage. We are going to continue the fight for marriage equality until our families are protected under the law like all other families are," commented Jasmyne Cannick, NBJC Board Member.

Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, were the first same-sex couple to receive a marriage license in San Francisco on February 12, 2004. "Del is eighty-three years old and I am seventy-nine," said **Phyllis Lyon**. "After being together for more than fifty years, it is a terrible blow to have the rights and protections of marriage taken away from us. At our age, we do not have the luxury of time." One very real consequence of the Court's action is that if one of the women were to die before the other, the surviving partner would have no right to social security or pension benefits and no protection against losing their family home.



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"This is a painful and difficult day for the thousands of couples whose love, commitment and desire to protect their families was placed on hold," said **Kate Kendell**, Executive Director of the **National Center for Lesbian Rights**. "While their families are not yet treated equally, their courageous public declarations have shown the world the harm caused by marriage discrimination and will result in our ultimately obtaining the freedom to marry."

"It is important to remember that today's decision says nothing about whether California can continue to discriminate against our families," said **Jon Davidson** of **Lambda Legal**.

ACLU of Northern California Associate Director **Bob Kearney**: "In 1948, the California Supreme Court was the first in the country to end race discrimination in marriage. We are confident that the court will live up to its own history and bring a swift end to marriage discrimination in California."

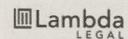
"Denying one group of people a government issued license for the sole purpose of discriminating against them and their children flies in the face of everything that has made California great," said **Geoffrey Kors**, Executive Director of **Equality California**, sponsor of the legislation and party to the litigation on behalf of its members. "These 4000 families, and hundreds of thousands of other families headed by same-sex couples, deserve nothing less than equality and we are confident that the courts and the legislature will remedy this injustice."

State Controller Steve Westly issued the following statement:

"This ruling is a momentary setback in the march toward marriage equality. The court's decision underscores the need to change California law to end discrimination and provide equality and security for every family."

Assemblyman Mark Leno, the Chair of the GLBT Legislative Caucus and author of AB 1967, a bill that will prohibit the denial of marriage licenses by the State of California to gay and lesbian couples issued the following statement: "This temporary delay in attaining marriage equality will not defuse our focus on achieving our ultimate goal - full rights and responsibilities under the law. Regardless of what the courts may say, we know there is no way to invalidate the love and devotion demonstrated by the 4,037 couples when they courageously committed to each other earlier this year. Our legislative effort will proceed on December 6, 2004 with the full confidence that our Marriage License Non Discrimination Act will be on the Governor's desk this time next year. I remain confident that this issue will eventually win approval of not only the Courts, but also the hearts and minds of all Americans."









A Sweet Treasure From Nature's Cornucopia

continued from page 11

For a fun summer cocktail, cut a plug out of a whole watermelon then funnel in as much rum as the melon will allow. Reinsert the plug, and then refrigerate the melon for 24 hours. The rum saturates the flesh and imparts an exotic, though not heavily alcoholic, taste to the fruit.

With summer at its peak, now is a great time to go to the local market and pick a fresh juicy melon. There are

many varieties of melons, but the most popular one is an elongated oval with green striping and red flesh.

Spotting a great melon is not difficult. First, look the watermelon over, choose a firm, symmetrical watermelon that is not bruised, cut or dented. Then, lift the melon—it should be heavy for its size. A watermelon is 92% water, which accounts for most of its weight. Next, turn it

over —the underside of the melon should have a creamy yellow spot. This is where it sat on the ground and ripened in the sun. You can also give it a good thump. A hollow sound indicates that the melon is ripe. On the right is a salsa recipe that will spice up any summer gathering, and for the weight conscious, it is tasty treat, low in fat, calories and cholesterol. V

Caribbean Salsa

2 cups chopped seeded watermelon

1 cup chopped fresh pineapple 1 cup chopped onion

1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro

1/4 cup orange juice

1 tablespoon chopped jalapeño pepper or jerk seasoning

In a large bowl combine ingredients; mix well. Refrigerate, covered, at least 1 hour to blend flavors. Stir before serving. Makes 8 servings.

Per serving: 34 calories; 1g protein; 0g fat; 0mg cholesterol; 3mg sodium

For more watermelon recipes go to the official watermelon website at www.watermelon.org

A Trendy Treat: Tapa The World

continued from page 11

chunks of bread dipped in the garlicky extra virgin olive oil and balsamic vinegar dipping sauce. They were close-your-eyes good.

Determined to try a dinner entrée and not just fill up on the appetizers, we decided to split the Loma de Cordero between us, a marinated, grilled lamb tenderloin (19.). The lamb was served in three strips, the first I've seen tenderloin served this way. It was nicely seared on the outside, tender and rare on the inside, served with "3 sauces: Rioja wine, Avocado, and Balsamic", and attractively plated with an accompaniment of saffron and wild mushroom rice, and a colorful melange of freshly sautéed vegetables.

The vegetables, a blend of perfectly prepared

asparagus, mushrooms, broccoli, red pepper, celery, and red onions, were tendercrisp, with colors still bright and both vitamins and flavor intact. We could only find 2 of the "3 Sauces", the reddish-brown Rioja Wine Sauce and the green Avocado Sauce, which while providing a artsy splash of color and a delightful flavor by itself, lost it's presence when infringed upon by the darker Rioja. As for the balsamic sauce, well, we just couldn't find it, and after 25 years in the biz, I know balsamic when I taste it. Perhaps by 9 PM on a busy day like Father's day, they were just out of it. It would have provided a nice, nippysweet contrast to the other sauces, but the dish didn't really suffer for its absence.

While it would have been nice to detect a little more saffron in the saffron rice and I was disappointed by the absence of the Balsamic Sauce, the whole package was still pretty darn good, and one I would order again.

Tapa's offers a selection of desserts such as cheesecake, rice pudding, ice cream and sorbet, with a few intriguing items such as Chocolate Strawberry Addiction and Fruit Empenadas, but alas, we were too stuffed even for jello, so they will have to wait until next time.

Tapa's has a full bar, although the accent is on their selection of sometimes hard to find wines, with their blackboard wines running from 5. to 8.5. Most folks around me

paid willingly for their favorites, and I heard that the Sangria is quite good. For those who prefer a little carbonation or caffeine, there are several designer beers on tap and an espresso maker in prominent view. A top shelf margarita will run you 7.5, a martini 7.5, and a Stoli Elit 8.5. Tapa the World is open 7 days a week until midnight at 2115 J, 442-4353. Tapa's features an excellent live classical and flamenco guitarist, an open kitchen, an outdoor dining area, and a refreshingly different atmosphere. It's Spanish soul food, the food of a proud, passionate people enjoyed to the laughter of friends, the flavor of authentic Sangria, and soothing sounds of a gently stirring live guitar.

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Mellissa Ethridge: Lucky In Reno

continued from page 14

"Your Little Secret". Without breaking stride, Etheridge and Sayce closed with some spectacular showstopping tricks on their guitars, swapping hands and chords, culminating in a move that can only be described as an intense make-out session between their two instruments. It was a wonderful night, with only two slight

drawbacks. The seating was far from ideal: slightly padded metal folding chairs arranged in cramped (and somewhat chaotic) rows. Then there were the childish antics of guitarist Philip Sayce, which included Fabio-esque poses, and chewing gum throughout the entire set. The night's strong spectrum of emotions – exuberance

to rage and back again - was, in part, a strong reflection of the dichotomy during previous eight hours, otherwise known as Reno Pride Day. Within the three and a half blocks of vendors and festivities, the atmosphere was thrilling, with couples grinning just to be holding each other's hands in the middle of the strip in broad daylight. Just

a few steps away, in the casinos and hotels, it was hard to avoid the negative, and sometimes threatening comments from guests who frowned upon the festivities outside. It was a powerful end to a long, emotional day - an end that will not easily be forgotten. V



955 Directory

Mom Guess What Newspaper (MGW), 1103 T Street, 95814, 441-6397

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Chalk It Up to Sacramento Fremont Park located at 15th and P Streets, 484-5710

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Gold Rush Days,

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Annual Greek Food Festival

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Chalk It Up to Sacramento

Fremont Park located at 15th and P Streets, 484-5710

6 MONDAY

Gold Rush Days,

11am-4pm, www.discovergold.org/ visitor/goldrush

California State Fair

Cal Expo, 1600 Exposition Blvd. 263-3000 Chalk It Up to Sacramento

Fremont Park located at 15th and P Streets, 484-5710

7 TUESDAY

Farmers Market,

10am-2pm, Roosevelt Park, www.downtownsac.org

8 WEDNESDAY

Farmers Market,

10am-2pm, Cesar Chavez Plaza, www.downtownsac.org

Old Sacramento Concert Series,

Duke Robillard - Blues/R&B, 6-8pm, waterfont park, www.capradoi.org

Karaoke Contest

11pm Faces video bar, www.faces.net Ringling Brothers & Barnum & Bailey Arco Arena, 649-8497

9 THURSDAY

Farmers Market,

10am-2pm, Westfield Shoppingtown, www.downtownsac.org Ringling Brothers & Barnum & Bailey Arco Arena, 649-8497

10 FRIDAY

Ringling Brothers & Barnum & Bailey Arco Arena, 649-8497

11 SATURDAY

Mountain View Art & Wine Festival,

10am-6pm, 9/11-9/12, Castro St., Mountain View, www.miramarevents.com 650-968-8378

GSAC General Meeting,

7pm, 723-8644

Personal Finance Management Workshop, 9am-2pm, 8795 Folsom Blvd, 379-3639 Steam-powered Excursions, 11am-5pm, 111 I Street, 445-6645 Ringling Brothers & Barnum & Bailey

Arco Arena, 649-8497

12 SUNDAY

Steam-powered Excursions, 11am-5pm, 111 I Street, 445-6645



Ringling Brothers & Barnum & Bailey Arco Arena, 649-8497

14 TUESDAY

Farmers Market,

10am-2pm, Roosevelt Park, www.downtownsac.org

15 WEDNESDAY

Farmers Market,

10am-2pm, Cesar Chavez Plaza, www.downtownsac.org

Old Sacramento Concert Series,

Charlie Hunter Trio - Acid Jazz, 6-8pm, waterfont park. www.capradio.org

Karaoke Contest

11pm Faces video bar, www.faces.net Bingo Riverboat Cruises - Spirit of Sacramento,

11a.m-1pm110 L Street, Old Sacramento 552-2933

16 THURSDAY

Farmers Market,

10am-2pm, Westfield Shoppingtown, www.downtownsac.org

17 FRIDAY

"The 3rd Friday":

Free Salsa Lesson, 7pm, Club 21 16th Annual CAPAC Dinner, 6pm, Tsakopoulos Library Galleria

18 SATURDAY

Monarchs vs Houston Comets, 7pm, ARCO Arena, 916-419-WNBA

Get Checking Workshop, 9am-3pm, 8795 Folsom Blvd., 379-3639

Steam-powered Excursions, 11am-5pm, 111 I Street, 445-6645

Annual Capital Regional Wine & Food Celebration Crocker Park, 808-7777

California Brewers Festival

Old Sac Freeway Gardens, Old Sac 12-7pm, 368-BREW

19 SUNDAY

Monarchs vs Minnesota Lynx, 7pm, ARCO Arena, 916-419-WNBA Steam-powered Excursions,

Art Galleries

20th Street Art Gallery 911 20th St., 930-0500, www.20thstart.com ARTS

Patel Society of the West Coast's Membership Show thru Sept. 9 808 Lincoln Way, Auburn 530-885-2787

BAMPFA

2625 Durant Avenue #2250, Berkely, 510-642-0808

Chroma Gallery Some Like It Hot, thru Sept. 5 10030 Fair Oaks Blvd., Fair Oaks, 966-6020

www.thechromagallery.com Crocker Art Museum

Mongolian Art: A Living Landscape, thru October 3; Indian Miniatures, thru October 3; Drawing in Italy from 1550 - 1650, September 11 thru November 7; Edward Weston: Life Work, Nov. 20 thru January 30, 2005 216 O Street,

www.crockerartmuseum.org **Exploding Head Gallery**

The Picture Mechanics thru September 28 924 12th St., 442-8424

Hang Art 556 & 567 Sutter Street, SF 415-434-4264

John Natsoulas Gallery 521 First St., Davis, 530-756-3938 Legion of Honor

100 34th Ave., SF 415-750-3614 Lola Gallery 2517 Mission St., Second Floor, SF,

415-401-6800

Northern California Arts, Inc Bald Expressions, September 28 thru October 17 5330-B Gibbons Drive, 971-3713 Phoenix Gallery 1739 L Street, 447-1632 Richard L. Nelson Gallery

Robert Arneson: The Palace at 9 AM, thru October 8

One Shields Avenue, Davis, 530-752-0522

SF MOMA

New Work:Evan Holloway & Dave Muller, thru October 24 151 Third Street, SF, 415-357-4000 Solomon Dubnick

New Work by Alan Post, thru September 4

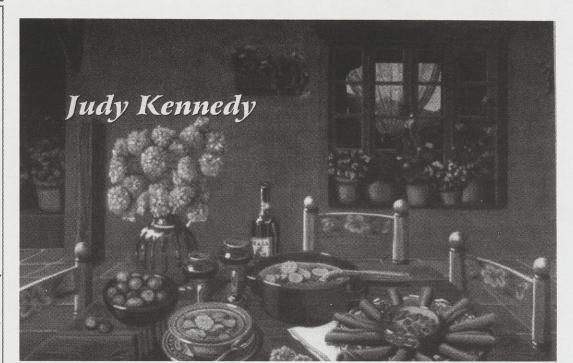
2131 Northrop Ave., 920-4547 State Capitol Building Basement Gallery

415-641-4636

Tower Framing & Design Gallery New Work by Judy Kennedy, thru September 25; Gallery of The Macabre thru October 31; Anxiety & the Moral Misery, New work by Robert Bowen

2131 Northrop Ave., 923-6204 **Up Town Studios Art Gallery** Reflections on Women; The Strength Within, September 11 thru October 8 912 1/2 J Street, 446-1082

Viewpoint Gallery SVPAC Members Show, September 3 thru October 23, reception September 11, 5:30-8:30pm 551 Sequoia Pacific Blvd., 441-2341





Actors Theatre

1616 Del Paso Blvd., 922-9774 California Musical Theatre Jesus Christ Superstar, thru September 5; Hairspray, September 29 thru October 10; Movin' Out, November 3 thru 14; Peter Pan, December 28 thru January 2, 2005; Big River: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, January 26 thru February 6, 2005; Singing In The Rain, March 9 thru 20, 2005; The Lion King, April 28 thru June 5 2005 1510 J Street, 446-5880, 446-1370, www.californiamusicaltheatre.com

Castro Theatre 415-863-0611,

hostess2@earthlink.net Empire Mine State Historic Park 10791 E. Empire St., Grass Valley 530-268-8578

Fair Oaks Theatre Festival American River College, 4700 College Oak Dr., 484-8433

Fairytale Town 264-5233, www.fairytaletown.org **Foothill Theatre Company**

As You Like It & Much Ado About Nothing, thru September 19; The Nerd, September 30 thru October

31; A Child's Christmas in Wales, November 18 thru January 1, 2005 530-265-9320

Les FrancoFolies de Montreal 1-800-444-9114,

www.francofolies.com Mondavi Center

530-754-2787 www.mondaviarts.org

Montclair Women's Cultural Arts Club

A Woman's Word, September 11, 7:30pm; Debbie Fier, Omeyocan, October 17, 3:30pm; Robin Flower & Libby McLaren, Nancy Fogl, November 13, 7:30pm; Adrienne Torf, Ronnie Gilbert, December 111, 7:30pm 510-339-1832

New Conservatory Theatre Center Gay Playwriting Workshop, Tuesdays thru September 7, 7-10pm; Goldfield & Koldewyn, July 10 thru July 18; Pride Season Ten: We Are Family, August 14 thru July 10, 2005 25 Van Ness Avenue @ Market, SF,

415-861-8972, www.nctcsf.org San Jose Center for the Performing Arts

1-888-445-7469, www.amtsj.org

415-788-7353, www.sfjazz.org SF Opera Company 301 Van Ness, 415-864-3330, www.sfopera.com

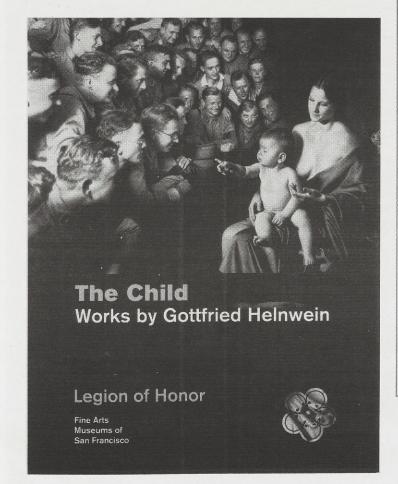
Strawberry Music Festival Strawberry Fall Music Festival, September 2 thru 6 209-533-0191,

www.strawberrvmusic.com The Golden Gate Theatre 650-327-1200

The Studio of Dramatic Arts PMB 253 @ 1008 10th St., 443-8648

The Woodland Opera House Over the River and Through the Woods, September 3 thru 26; Swinging on a Star, October 29 thru November 21; I Ought to be in Pictures, January 28 thru February 20, 2005, Once Upon A Mattress, April 8 thru May 1, 2005; Picnic, May 27 thru June 19, 2005 340 Second St., Woodland, 530-666-9617

Wells Fargo Pavilion 1419 H St., 557-1999 www.sacbroadwayseries.com



Everyone knows about Rainbow Festival Street Faire.

You all know we've got Kimberley Locke.

You know about Bonnie, and Crystal, and CeCe, and Jeanie and everyone else.

Fair enough. Here's what you might NOT know...

1. KIDS - Go ahead and bring the kids. Not only are kids under 12 admitted FREE to the Street Faire, we'll have a supervised Children's Area with lots of fun stuff like face painting and clowns.

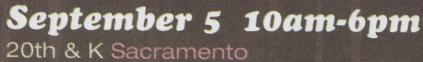
2. GAY WEDDING - That's right. A ceremony to honor all those that have shared their commitments with us. Well have guests on hand like Marghe Covino (Goddess), Dr. Darrick Lawson (Vice President Stonewall Democratic Club), Steve Hansen (Equality California), Dan Roth (President Stonewall Democratic Club, Sacramento), Nicole Murray Ramirez (Past President Marriage Equality + San Diego City Commisioner) to lend a hand in the festivities.

3. KARAOKE - Got your own take on "Paradise By The Dashboard Light"? It's time to take it out of the shower and into the street. We'll be featuring Karaoke ALL DAY during the Faire. As if that werent enough, we have not one, but TWO companies doing our Karaoke this year. We'll have Howard's KNIGHT VISION and Joker's WILD CARD to help you belt out the hits.

4. DRAG, DRAG, DRAG - Downtown Divas are landing at 20th & K and they will not be denied. The DOWNTOWN DIVAS RAINBOW FESTIVAL REVUE is one of their biggest shows yet. Out-of-town Entertainers, Live Singers, Full Production Numbers and more Glam than sensible people can handle. The Divas will be at the FACES Big Top Sunday the 5th at 8pm.







ECGNIE

rainbowfestival.com